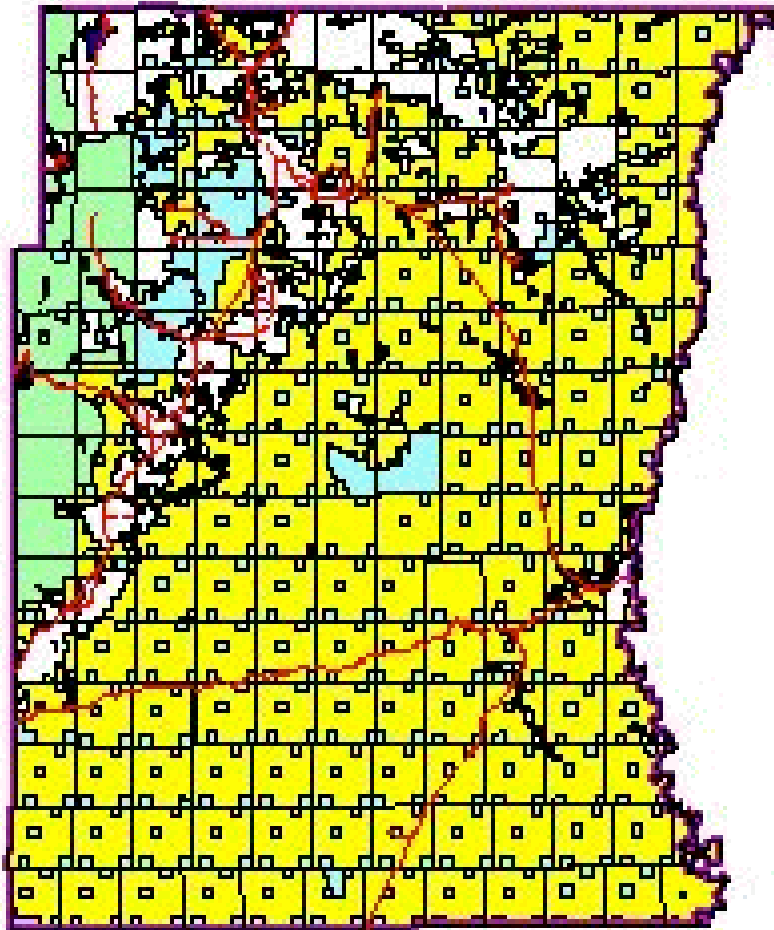


**Pre-Plan Analysis
for the
Price Field Office
Resource Management Plan**



Prepared by
Richard Manus , Field Manager
of the Price River and San Rafael Planning Areas

April 4, 2001

**Pre-Plan Contract
for the
Price Field Office Resource Management Plan**

RECOMMENDED:

Dick Manus, Price Field Office Manager

Date

APPROVED:

Sally Wisely, Utah State Director

Date

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A.	INTRODUCTION	1
1.	Background	1
2.	Purpose and Need	5
3.	Relationship to Other Plans	6
B.	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND STAKEHOLDER LIST	8
3.	PRELIMINARY PLANNING CRITERIA..	10
4.	PRELIMINARY PLANNING ISSUES AND MANAGEMENT CONCERNS	12
1.	Air Quality.....	13
2.	Cultural, Paleontology, Natural History.....	13
3.	Fire Management.....	14
4.	Woodland Harvest and Management	14
5.	Hazardous Materials and Wastes	14
6.	Lands and Realty	14
7.	Rangeland Management and Health.....	14
8.	Minerals Management.....	15
9.	Off-highway Vehicle Use and Transportation.....	15
10.	Recreation Resources and Management.....	16
11.	Visual Resources	16
12.	Watershed Management, Soils and Vegetation.....	16
13.	Wild horse Management	17
14.	Wilderness Character	17
15.	Wild and Scenic Rivers	17
16.	Other Special Management Designations	17
17.	Wildlife Habitat Management.....	18
E.	DATA AND GIS NEEDS	18
F.	PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROCESS (Planning Team).....	19
7.	FORMAT AND PROCESS	20
8.	PLAN PREPARATION SCHEDULE	23
I.	BUDGET	26

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A:	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE	29
APPENDIX B:	CONTACT/COMMENT DOCUMENTATION	31
APPENDIX C:	GEOSPATIAL DATA DEVELOPMENT	32
APPENDIX D:	PRE-PLAN DATA STATUS	36
APPENDIX E:	GIS THEME LIST FOR THE PRICE FIELD OFFICE.....	37
APPENDIX F:	PRELIMINARY DEIS FORMAT & CONTENT OUTLINE	44

PREPARATION PLAN FOR THE PRICE FIELD OFFICE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN REVISION

1. INTRODUCTION

The Price Field Office proposes to prepare a new Resource Management Plan (RMP) that will cover the area previously covered by two plans, the Price River Resource Area Management Framework Plan (MFP) and the San Rafael Resource Management Plan (RMP). The Price River Resource Area MFP was approved in 1983 and supplemented in 1989. The San Rafael Resource Area RMP was approved in 1991.

H.R. 5408, part of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal 2001, terminated the Naval Oil Shale Reserve #2 (NOSR2). It gave BLM (Price Field Office) all of NOSR2 west of the Green River, the entire bed of the Green River within NOSR2, and a 1/4 mile scenic easement on the east side of the Green River within NOSR2, about 6500 acres. The act requires the Secretary of the Interior to submit to Congress a land use plan for these lands, within three years of enactment. It is proposed that the planning for the NOSR2 lands be incorporated into this RMP effort.

1. Background

Price River Resource Area

The Price River Resource Area (PRRA) is located in the western portion of the Colorado Plateau physiographic province, which is found in south-central Utah and encompasses Carbon County and parts of Emery County. The PRRA also has administrative responsibility for portions of Duchesne, Uintah, and Utah Counties (Map 1). The PRRA is bounded by the Green River on the east, the Manti-LaSal National Forest on the west, and the Carbon-Duchesne county line on the north; the southwestern boundary is roughly a line drawn between the point where Highway U-24 crosses the San Rafael River and the town of Huntington. The Price River Resource Area is bounded on the south by the San Rafael Resource Area and by the Wasatch Plateau escarpment on the west and includes the Book Cliffs and Roan Cliffs on the north and east.

Within the planning area boundaries are historic communities deriving their existence from coal mining. Elevations in the area range from about 4,000 feet at the city of Green River to over 10,000 feet at Bruin Point. The area is drained by the Green River and its tributaries, the Price and San Rafael Rivers. There are many scenic attractions including Nine Mile Canyon, Desolation Canyon, Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry, and Price

River Canyon. PRRA administers grazing allotments which extend into Duchesne County. Under a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Vernal Field Office (VFO), dated June 2, 1976, the Price River Resource Area also has responsibility for recreation management at the Sand Wash Ranger Station and along the Green River south to the Uintah/Carbon County line. PRRA will do inventories and make recreation recommendations for this section of river in consultation with Vernal District. The Price River Resource Area also administers grazing on one allotment in Utah County, which falls in the Salt Lake FO.

The area includes about 1,700,000 acres which includes: 1,087,357 federal lands administered by BLM, Forest Service lands, State lands, and private lands. In addition the FO manages subsurface mineral estate located under the Manti LaSal National Forest and Private surface.

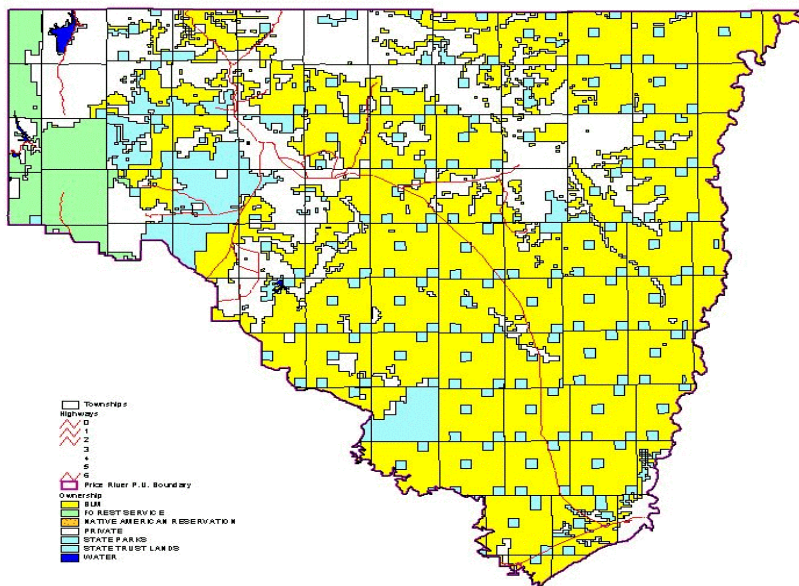
San Rafael Resource Area

The San Rafael Resource Area (SRRA) comprises the public lands and resources in the southwestern two-thirds of Emery County in central Utah (see map 2). It is bordered by the county line on the west and south, the Green River on the east, and an irregular line on the northwest which extends roughly northwest from just south of the town of Green River, across the San Rafael Swell just north of the San Rafael River, to the Manti-La Sal National Forest northwest of the town of Huntington. Interstate Highway I-70 cuts across the center of the area and State Highways U-10 and U-24 lie within the unit's boundary. The San Rafael Resource Area is bounded on the north by the Price River Resource Area. Several small communities are located adjacent to Highway U-10: they include Castle Dale (the Emery County seat), Huntington, Clawson, Ferron, Emery and Orangeville.

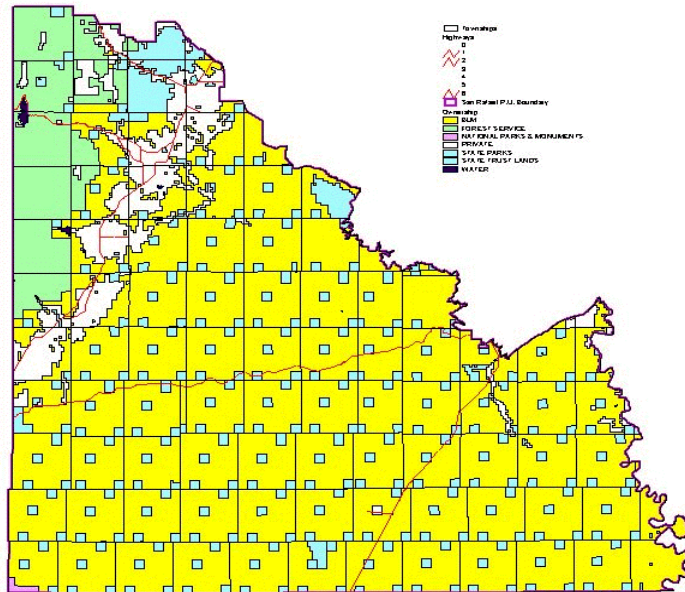
The FO manages about 2,000,000 acres which includes: 1,463,840 federal lands administered by BLM, Forest Service lands, State lands, and private lands. In addition the area manages subsurface mineral estate located under the Manti LaSal and Fishlake National Forest, and some administered by the National Park Service, and Private surface.

The Green River is the boundary between the San Rafael/Price and Moab FO. Currently the management responsibility for the river is split between these offices. Management decisions for this area will be coordinated with the Vernal FO and the Moab FO in this plan to ensure the management objectives for the area are unified.

Communities in the planning area include Price, East Carbon, Wellington, Helper, Green River, The planning area shares boundaries with the the Vernal Field Office (FO), San Juan FO, Salt Lake FO and Manti-La Sal and Fishlake National Forests, and the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation.



Map 1: Price River Resource Area



Map 2: San Rafael Resource Area

2. Purpose and Need

Considerable changes have occurred throughout the planning units since completion of the current land use plans. Heightened public awareness, increase in public demand for use of the lands, and increase in conflict continue to challenge BLM's management goals and objectives. Needless to say, the Price Field Office is facing a wide variety of issues affecting local communities, regional and state interests and the health of our natural resources.

Given the nature of the issues that face the Price Field Office and the overlap between Federal, Tribal, State and local jurisdictions, the Price Field Office has chosen to combine existing land use plans into one planning document.

It is anticipated the plan will require change in many of the prior MFP/RMP decisions related to the management of public lands. However, some of the decisions covered by the San Rafael RMP and possibly to a lesser degree, decisions in the Price River MFP document will not be changed by this new effort.

There are a number of new issues, higher levels of controversy around existing issues, and new (unforeseen) public land uses and concerns that have arisen over the years which were not included or were inadequately addressed in the Price River MFP and San Rafael RMP. Such issues, which include, but are not limited to, coal-bed methane development, wilderness, off-highway vehicle use, access and transportation issues, mountain bike use, and new commercial uses need to be addressed in the revised plan.

The purpose of the plan will be to establish guidance, objectives, policies, and management actions for public lands administered by the Price Field Office. The plan will be comprehensive in nature, and will resolve or address issues within the Price Field Office jurisdictional boundaries which are identified through agency, interagency, and public scoping efforts.

The plan will explain or identify the current management situation, desired future conditions to be maintained or achieved, wilderness management goals and more specific methods, management actions necessary to achieve objectives, and a schedule/cost estimate for implementing the actions for achieving these goals.

The document will address and integrate, to the degree possible, all BLM, FS and local government management plans related to management of the lands in or adjacent to the public lands managed by the Price Field Office. This may include, but is not limited to, fire management plans, livestock grazing allotment management plans, wildlife habitat management plans, and recreation management plans.

In addition to the purposes described above, the new RMP will also fulfill the following needs and obligations as set forth by established legislation, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), and BLM Land Use Plan policy.

This pre-plan provides the general blueprint for how the Price Field Office’s new RMP will be developed. It is our intention that the pre-plan be dynamic and our RMP preparation strategy may require modification as unforeseen situations arise.

The purpose of this pre -plan is to:

- Document the planning area boundaries covered by the Price Field Office Resource Management Plan;
- Identify the preliminary issues to be resolved and the planning criteria that will be used to address them;
- Document the scope, complexity, major responsibilities and requirements for the planning effort;
- Establish the internal and external coordination for the agencies involved.
- Identify a completion schedule and budget and
- Establish and identify the public participation process.

3. Relationship to Other Programs, Plans or Policies

This planning process will recognize the many ongoing programs, plans and policies that are being implemented in the planning area by other land managers and interested governments. BLM will seek to be consistent with or complimentary to other management actions. Whenever possible, valid resource decisions and management prescriptions would be carried forward into the planning process. The following plans, which are located within and adjacent to the planning area will be reviewed for decisions or issues/management prescriptions that need to be carried forward or addressed in the new planning effort.

County Land Use Plans

- Carbon County, Utah
- Emery County, Utah
- Duchesne County, Utah
- Grand County, Utah
- Wayne County, Utah

State of Utah

- SCORP

Other Federal Plans

- Manti-La Sal National Forest Land Use Plan
- Uintah and Ouray Indian Tribe Land Use Plan

Mining Activity Plans

- O&G EA 1988
- Designation of Hydrocarbon Lease Categories 1984

Recreation Management Plans

- Wilderness 202, Reinventory, 1999
- Recreation and Cultural Management Plan for Nine Mile Canyon; Management Plan, 1994
- Desolation & Grey Canyon River Management Plan, 1979

Habitat Plans

- North San Rafael HMP, 1997
- San Rafael Desert HMP, 1992
- Range Valley Mountain HMP, EA
- Grassy Trail HMP, 1987

Horse Mgmt Plans

- Range Creek HMP, 1993
- Sinbad HMP, 1993

Endangered Species Recovery Plans

- Razorback Sucker Recovery Plan, 1999
- Maguire Daisy Recovery Plan, 1995
- Mexican Spotted Owl Recovery Plan, 1995
- Utah Reed-Mustards Recovery Plan, 1994
- Last Chance Townsendia Recovery Plan, 1993
- Colorado Squawfish Recovery Plan, 1991
- Bonytail Chub Recovery Plan, 1990
- Humpback Chub Recovery Plan, 1990
- Unita Basin Hookless Cactus, 1990
- Northern States Bald Eagle Recovery Plan, 1983
- Black Footed Ferret Recovery Plan, 1988
- The Recovery Implementation Plan for the Endangered Fish Species in the Upper Colorado River Basin, 1987
- Wright Fishhook Cactus Recovery Plan, 1985
- American Peregrine Falcon Recovery Plan, 1984

Existing Environmental Impact Statements

- Ferron Gas EIS 1999
- River Gas EIS for coalbed methane development 1997
- Castle Gate EIS for coalbed methane development 1992
- San Rafael RMP- 1991
- Utah BLM Statewide Wilderness EIS. 1990.
- Utah Combined Hydrocarbon Leasing Regional EIS, 1984.
- Price River Grazing Mgmt EIS 1983

.B. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS AND STAKEHOLDER LIST

The key factor in a successful planning effort lies in our ability to provide an open and honest environment in which to meaningfully involve the public throughout the planning process. BLM will actively seek to involve the public in a manner which will foster long- term relationships, and build ownership in the management of public lands (Appendix A). A variety of methods will be used throughout this process. At a minimum, the following actions will be taken to facilitate public involvement in this process.

1. Identify Issues, Concerns and Planning Criteria:

- Publish Notice of Intent
- Provide notices in media (paper, radio, T.V., etc.)
- Develop interactive web site
- Develop mailing list data base and tracking system for comments
- Publish regular Planning Bulletins
- Host Planning Orientation Meeting
- Build upon existing collaborative workgroups
- Use professional facilitators to enhance public and BLM interactions
- Maintain an open scoping period for public involvement throughout the preliminary phases of the planning process
- Provide for standardized comment input forms to enhance public input

2. Inventory and Data Collection

- Invite the public to review existing data, and recommend new data needs, or provide data
- Work with Federal Leadership Forum in accordance with existing MOU
- Ensure excellent coordination with agencies with jurisdictional expertise in data collection efforts

3. Alternative Formulation

- Utilize public input in the formulation of alternatives
- Provide public feed back via Planning Bulletins, open houses, media, and interactive web site

- Provide for a variety of public involvement opportunities including written correspondence, e-mail, web site, public contact representatives
 - Invite the public to discuss options for analysis and methodologies used in development of the EIS
4. Publish Draft EIS/Draft RMP
- Provide for a minimum 90 day comment period on the DEIS, allowing for a variety of feedback mechanisms
 - Host open houses for informational and comment purposes
5. Publish Final EIS/Proposed RMP.
- Notify public of FEIS
 - Welcome informal comment or involvement during this period
 - Initiate public protest period
 - Initiate Governor's Consistency Review

Stakeholder List - Who Will be Involved?

A wide variety of people, agencies and organizations will become involved with this planning process. All comments will be noted and recorded (Appendix B). Known participants will include but are not limited to:

1. Governor's Consistency/Resources Development Coordination Committee (RDCC)

Coordination of Utah State concerns is handled through the State RDCC. Membership on this committee includes representatives from all the major State agencies. Their job is to review actions that impact State lands including RMPs and other major BLM actions. The RDCC is the reviewing authority for the Governor's consistency review. Presentations of the Draft and Final RAMP/EIS will be made to RDCC at the time of release to the public.

2. Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation Coordination

The BLM will contact the Ute Tribal Council and the Bureau of Indian Affairs to initiate coordination for areas of common interest and concern.

3. County and Association of County Governments Coordination

Representatives from Carbon, Emery, Duchesne and Uinta Counties have been

very active in past BLM planning efforts. The County Commissions will be briefed on the RMP process and the preliminary issues identified by the ID Team and will be encouraged to participate in the planning process.

4. Other Federal Agency Coordination

The BLM will work with the Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, and other federal agencies in matters of joint concern.

5. Coordination with Other BLM Field Offices

All adjacent BLM offices will be contacted and briefed on the new planning effort. Land Use Plans for other BLM offices in Utah will be reviewed and every effort made to be consistent with decisions in these plans.

6. State Land Management Coordination

The State of Utah has responsibility for the management of certain lands within the planning area boundary. The State Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) are responsible for School Trust Lands and the Utah Division of Lands and Forestry are responsible for Sovereign Lands, Utah Division of Parks and Recreation is responsible for the management of both Hunnington and Goblin Valley Parks, and the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources is responsible for lands owned by them. The BLM will work closely with the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining as the State agent for SITLA land minerals. Close coordination with all of these agencies will be a matter of standard operating procedure. BLM will also coordinate closely with SHPO in compliance with the state protocol.

7. Interest Groups and Other Organizations

There are many groups that will play an active role in the RMP process. They will be included on mailing lists along with interested citizens. Special meetings may be held to address specific concerns of interest groups. They will undoubtedly include, environmental organizations, industry interests in the field of coal, oil and gas development, commercial outfitters, grazing permittees, private land owners, local and regional news media, sportsmen, ATV users, and many other individuals and groups that will be identified during the scoping process.

8. Advisory Committee

The Utah RAC provides advice to the BLM on resource issues in Utah. The RAC will be consulted early in the plan preparation process.

3. PRELIMINARY PLANNING CRITERIA

Planning criteria are the constraints or ground rules that guide and direct the development of the plan, and determine how the planning team approaches the development of alternatives and ultimately, selection of a Preferred Alternative. They ensure that plans are tailored to the identified issues and ensure that unnecessary data collection and analyses are avoided. They focus on the decisions to be made in the plan and achieve the following:

- Provide an early, tentative basis for inventory and data collection needs
- Enable the manager and staff to develop a preliminary planning base map delineating geographic analysis units.

Note: These criteria are preliminary at this stage of planning and will undoubtedly be modified as the public becomes more fully involved.

Preliminary Planning Criteria:

- This plan will recognize the existence of valid existing rights.
- Lands covered in the RMP will be public lands, which include split estate lands, managed by BLM. Decisions on lands not managed by BLM will not be made in the RMP.
- The BLM will use a collaborative and multi-jurisdictional approach, where possible, to jointly determine the desired future condition of Public Lands.
- The BLM will strive to ensure that its management prescriptions are consistent as possible to other planning jurisdictions, within the boundaries described by law and policy.
- Final management prescriptions will consider a range of alternatives that focus on the relative values of resources and ensure responsiveness to the issues.
- Sensitive watersheds will be identified and watershed conditions determined, in particular on Utah Category One (A,B and C) watersheds and those HUC-8 sub-basins ranked highest in the Utah Interagency Colorado River Salinity Ranking Process (BLM, NRCS, USGS, BOR).
- The socioeconomic impacts of the alternatives will be addressed.
- The BLM will use current scientific information, research, new technologies and the results of inventory, monitoring and coordination to determine appropriate local, and regional management strategies that will enhance or restore impaired ecosystems.
- Management of existing Wilderness Study Areas (WSA) and new WSA's established

through planning will be guided by the Interim Management Policy (IMP) for Lands Under Wilderness Review. Land use allocations made for WSA's must be consistent with the IMP and with other laws, regulations and policies related to WSA management. The RMP must also address how these lands would be managed if released by Congress from WSA status. If areas are designated as wilderness by Congress, they will be managed to preserve their wilderness values, according to applicable laws and policy.

- Comprehensive Land Health Standards will apply to all activities and uses and will generally be evaluated on a watershed basis. Adjustments to current livestock grazing or wildlife forage allocations would be considered in accordance with Rangeland Health Standards and Guides. Standards and guides would be applicable to all alternatives.
- Baseline Reasonable Foreseeable Management/Development (RFD) scenarios will be developed and portrayed based on historical, existing, and projected levels for all programs.
- Planning will include the formal "Call for Coal Resource and Other Information" as required by 43 CFR 3420.1-2.
- Indian Tribe coordination will be made to identify sites, areas, and objects important to their cultural and religious heritage.
- Paleontological and cultural resources develop will be evaluated for use allocations, if appropriate, including provisions for interpretation, preservation, conservation and enhancement.
- The decisions of this plan will comply with the Endangered Species Act and follow interagency agreements with the USFWS regarding Section 7 Consultation Process.
- Areas potentially suitable for ACECs, and other special management designations will be identified, and brought forward for analysis in the RMP.
- All river segments will be considered, and determinations of eligibility, suitability, tentative classification, and protective management will be made in accordance with Section 5 (d) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and BLM Manual 8351. Public nominations will be requested.
- Vegetation management objectives or desired future conditions will be developed for all areas. Limits will be identified on the type and amount of disturbance that will be allowed before mitigation is required.
- Management actions will be responsive to the issues, concerns, and opportunities identified for resolution in this plan.
- Decisions regarding off-highway vehicle driving will be consistent with the BLM's National OHV Strategy.

4. PRELIMINARY PLANNING ISSUES AND MANAGEMENT CONCERNS

Significant change has taken place since completion of the Price River and San Rafael land use plans. Communities have grown, and resource development has expanded significantly while at the same time environmental conservation and protection is becoming a major concern. We are seeing a new transition from traditional uses (mining and grazing) to a greater awareness of the recreation opportunities the public lands have to offer. Needless to say, the Price Field Office is facing a wide variety of issues affecting local communities, regional and state interests and the health of our natural resources. Our communities are more aware of the need to address wildland/urban interface with respect to expanding communities and changes in public values.

Planning issues can generally be stated as resource management problems or opportunities that BLM needs to address to ensure a fulfilling of its multiple use resource management mission. Issues may be identified by local, state or national needs, or may reflect conditions specific to the Price Field Office. Strategies for defining desired future conditions with respect to the issues will look at geographical areas (Level 5, Watersheds) in the context of disturbance regimes and functional ecological processes. It is recognized that issues are subject to change throughout the planning process as new conditions or opportunities are identified and the public becomes fully involved in the planning process.

Planning issues identify concerns that:

- Present unresolved questions regarding allocation of a specific resource.
- Present major land use conflicts regarding management or maintenance of a base resource.
- Can be resolved by BLM within the life of the plan.
- Identify opportunities to be developed.

The following preliminary planning issues were identified by the Price Field Office during an evaluation of the Price River MFP and San Rafael RMP conducted November 13, 2000. A copy of this evaluation is available for review at the field office.

Note: These issues are preliminary and may be modified, deleted, or added to, through the public input process.

9. Air Quality: Current air quality standards post date many of the earlier planning decisions. In conducting this regional planning effort, BLM will ensure compliance with all applicable local, state, tribal and federal air quality laws, statutes, regulations, standards and implementation plans. The RMP will identify desired future conditions and area-wide criteria or restrictions, in cooperation with the State of Utah and EPA, that apply to direct or authorized emission-generating activities.
10. Cultural, Paleontology, and Natural History: There are now numerous laws, regulations, manuals, and program guidance for the Cultural program which were

not in existence during the time the original Land Use Plans (LUPs) were written.

- New planning will seek to provide a forum for exploring opportunities to use cultural and paleontological resources consistent with their scientific educational, recreational, and other values within the Price FO area of jurisdiction.
- Many policies and strategies regarding consideration of Native American values, sovereignty, and coordination/consultation were not in place during the preparation of existing plans. Also, acts, laws, and regulations were not in place earlier regarding tribal government sovereignty and orientation between governments. This combined revision will seek to actively consult with, and fully address concerns, and recognize values important to Native Americans in compliance with these new requirements.
- International public awareness of the significant resources found in the area has increased. Many new discoveries, excavations, and analyses in the field of archaeology and paleontology have occurred since the original RMPs were written. These new findings are beginning to change BLM's understanding of these resources in the Price area. This new RMP will seek to provide a more active and educational forum for the management of these resources including their values for science, education, recreation, and other values.

11. Fire Management: This planning effort will address appropriate fire management actions including areas where fire is not desired, where fire can be used as a resource management tool for habitat restoration through rehabilitation, and where fuel reductions are necessary as required by the Wildland and Prescribed Fire Management Policy.
12. Woodland Harvest and Management: There is a demand for timber harvest of Douglas fir and pinyon/juniper. Price Field Office is getting more requests to allow for commercial cutting of timber, spruce and Douglas fir. BLM needs to address these requests and evaluate the need and opportunity for development with emphasis on restoration and rehabilitation. This is not addressed in either plan. Also many of the areas where wood resources occur are landlocked. Neither existing LUP addresses the management of Christmas tree cutting or vegetative harvest (including pine nuts, native grass and brush seeds). Cutting is limited to chained areas.
13. Hazardous Materials and Wastes: Where appropriate, this new RMP will address hazardous materials issues. The RMP will deal with problems that must be resolved and the limitations these problems place on other resource uses, effective natural resource management and potential development.
14. Lands and Realty: Considerable community growth and development and increased use of public lands dictates the update of many goals and objectives in

the Lands and Realty Management portions of both existing LUPs. This new planning effort will ensure that the following are appropriately addressed:

- Determine transportation and utility right-of-way corridors (including avoidance areas, and exclusion areas)
- Determine Specific Land Use Authorization decisions to be appropriate in meeting specific resource goals and objectives
- Determine access needs
- Evaluate proposals for land tenure adjustments in the context of facilitating resource management objectives
- Review land tenure adjustments or ownerships and management agreements that were not addressed that have occurred since the completion of previous planning, e.g., transfer of NOSR-2 land
- Direct management of acquired lands
- Review current withdrawals need to be reviewed

7. Rangeland Management and Health:

- a. Resource concerns and potential conflicts have arisen regarding the allocation and season of use of forage with the proposed planning area.
2. The new BLM grazing regulations no provide for creating suspended non-use, but they do recognize AUMs that are active and in a voluntary non-use status. Under policy driven from previous grazing rules, BLM implemented many forage reductions in the planning area by obtaining agreement with the permittees to take long-term voluntary non-use rather than have those AUMs suspended or cancelled. Now, many permittees are applying for grazing use at levels that correspond to the AUMs that have been in voluntary non-use status. Often BLM does not have the resource information needed to be able to timely and responsibly act on the applications. This issue should be addressed in the upcoming RMP revision.
3. Isolated instances of resource degradation are occurring in site specific areas, particularly associated with seasons of use and forage allocation. This planning effort will ensure resolution of rangeland health concerns by addressing the following:
 - Apply comprehensive land health standards for the resource should be applied to all uses, not just livestock grazing. In addition, Standards and Guides for rangeland health should also be addressed in the RMP.
 - Evaluating adjustments in livestock numbers and seasons-of-use , with

- emphasis on evaluating spring grazing use areas.
 - Evaluating forage allocation and carrying capacity for wildlife and livestock.
 - Evaluating the range capability and resource ramifications, including potential impacts to rangeland health and impacts to wildlife habitat under various feasible wildlife population levels, of allowing grazing permittees to use permitted AUMs now suspended and in non-use status in addition to AUMs in active status.
 - Evaluating trailing area locations.
8. **Minerals Management:** Projected mineral development should be revisited in this “new” RMP. Concerns regarding the amount of oil and gas activity include direct, indirect and cumulative impacts associated with wildlife, recreation and visual resource management and wilderness resources designations. Baseline minerals information for both existing LUPs should be revised to reflect new and developing information. This planning effort will ensure that minerals management issues, opportunities and potential impacts will be addressed at an appropriate regional scale and will address the following:
- RFD scenarios for mineral development to be updated on a regional scale.
 - Changing resource conditions and issues reflect a need to review and possibly modify oil and gas leasing categories in specific areas.
 - Mitigation and lease stipulations reviewed to ensure consistency throughout the planning area. Surface use stipulations developed for oil and gas will apply across the board for all surface disturbing activities.
 - Increased demand for energy to be balanced against the need for protection of other resources.
9. **Off-Highway Vehicle Use and Transportation:** Growth of OHV use has become a significant issue within the planning area because of the concern related to resource degradation that results from dispersed use. OHV use and management will be addressed and updated with an effort to resolve resource conflicts that pertain to other natural resources and still provide for responsible OHV use.
- Existing OHV use categories and designations should be reviewed and modified where needed to meet changing resource objectives.
 - All lands will have OHV designations (open, limited, closed) and those areas designated as “limited” will have specific road and trail designations made (see Handbook 1610-1, Appendix C.II.C).
10. **Recreation Resources and Management:** World class recreational resources are located within the planning area. Increased visitor use is impacting soil, water, vegetation, and wildlife. This planning effort would review recreation uses and

projected needs. In order to determine appropriate management for the following:

- Existing Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs) requiring enhanced or special management for recreational uses, or for protection of recreational related resource values;
 - Special Recreation Permit (SRP) policies should be reviewed for both river and upland guided use. Establish limits of use, or limits of acceptable change, that will protect resource values as well as companies holding valid SRPs.
 - There is a need to evaluate recreation needs, resource impacts, etc. across all lands (which may include specific management needs for existing or new extensive recreation management areas (ERMAs), SRMAs and revised SRP policies). Consider whether areas currently have or are likely to have heavy or increasing uses and if need use allocations should be performed. There is also a need to consider what data is currently available to make these determinations and what additional data may be needed.
11. Visual Resource: Visual resource management is of significant concern given the spectacular scenery of the planning area. Changes in visitor use patterns and frequency, as well as intensive development, is causing concerns in some areas and enhanced protection of visual resources may be necessary.
- The existing Visual Resource Management (VRM) classification system will be reviewed and amended as necessary with the intent to assess/reassess the current VRM designations, and to designate/re-designate VRM classes as necessary.
2. Watershed Management, Soils and Vegetation: Current management direction is inadequate or lacking in opportunities to enhance the management of watershed values and vegetation resources. Management of these resources are not consistent between the planning areas. The State of Utah has developed non-point source BMP's, and these are applied by stipulation on a voluntary basis. Water inventory (i.e. springs, wells, and groundwater) database is in need of updating in order to support future planning efforts. This new planning effort will address (on a regional scale) the following needs:
- Enhanced management direction for vegetative resources and watershed values
 - Appropriate consideration for water quality concerns related to activities on public lands, including but not limited to, the requirements mandated by the Clean Water Act, state water classifications in the 303 D and 305 report, state water inventories, as well as at risk water quality due to naturally occurring formations, Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act, Safe Drinking Water Acts Amendments, the Unified Federal Policy for a Watershed Approach and Category One (ABC) watersheds

- Development of land health assessments and Standards and Guides for Rangeland Health on a watershed basis
 - Management and control of weeds and appropriate conservation or restoration of at risk watersheds
 - Appropriate management of numerous special status vegetative species in order to prevent additional listings of populations
 - Appropriate and consistent flood plain protection
 - Enhanced management direction for the inventory and protection of riparian areas in accordance with current BLM policy
 - Minimization of salt uptake and transport
 - Identification of public land water uses and water rights where issues exist
13. **Wild Horse Management:** Four Herd Management Areas (HMAs) exist in the planning area (Range Creek, Muddy Creek, Sinbad, and Robber's Roost). This planning effort will address the management of wild horses including initial and estimated herd sizes, while still preserving or maintaining a thriving ecological balance and multiple use relationships for that area.
- Establish the guidelines and criteria for adjusting appropriate management level (AML) including the use of contraceptives and other experimental and accepted management practices
 - Modify herd area (HA) and herd management area (HMA) boundaries which were inaccurately described in the last planning effort
 - Develop management and population plans for the HMAs
 - Consideration should be given to ecological concerns, and balancing these ecological concerns with management levels when making decisions
14. **Wilderness Character:** Management of lands with wilderness characteristics remains an extremely controversial situation in Utah. Areas have been designated, and are being managed as Wilderness Study Areas (WSA). Additional areas have been inventoried and found to possess wilderness character. This planning effort will consider whether or not these inventoried areas should be managed as WSAs and subject to IMP.
15. **Wild and Scenic Rivers:** Streams and rivers in the Price River MFP area have never been considered for wild and scenic river eligibility, suitability, and tentative classification determinations. In addition, streams and rivers in the San Rafael area will be reevaluated for these same determinations in order to comply with the terms and conditions of the resolution of a past protest to the RMP.
16. **Other Special Management Designations:** BLM will review existing designations as well as other lands within the planning area which may meet specific designation criteria (such as ACECs) and determine appropriate management prescriptions for these areas.

17. **Wildlife Habitat Management:** Current information related to wildlife and habitat may be out of date. Neither of the old planning areas clearly identify desired future conditions for wildlife. This planning effort will:

- Update the wildlife species/numbers and habitat inventories, which will assist in identifying measurable objectives for important wildlife habitats, include defining desired future conditions, designation of priority species and critical habitats(special status species), identify opportunities or restrictions needed to achieve desired future conditions and address conservation strategies including HMPs for listed species of wildlife.
- Include wording from sage grouse management guidelines related to the protection of buffer zones around leks, etc., as well as the general management of the sagebrush ecosystem to ensure that the integrity of sage grouse habitat is protected.
- Update the old plans to include UDWR plans for big game transplants and include their goals and objectives where appropriate.
- Map or digitize data which will delineate boundaries for crucial big game ranges within the planning unit.
- Obtain an updated State Sensitive Species List from UDWR and determine if other species exist in the planning area which were not previously covered by planning.
- Include the management of the ADC program in accordance with the National and State MOUs.

E. DATA and GIS NEEDS

The overall data management strategy and effort expended to acquire, develop, use and share geospatial data for the Price Field Office RMP will be integrated and coordinated with existing federal governmental, BLM, and Utah BLM data management initiatives (Appendix C). Much of the data gathered and used for this planning effort will become corporate data and will be used during plan implementation and by other programs to conduct their day-to-day business. In addition, the jurisdictional boundaries are contiguous with other Utah BLM planning starts and it is important to coordinate data development and data management for all planning efforts to ensure consistent data. Throughout the planning process, data found to be necessary to address the planning issues will be documented in conformance with the methodology shown in Appendix D.

Collaboration is a key component to be incorporated into the planning process and this includes the development and acquisition of data used during planning. Examples of collaborative data collection and sharing include data capture initiatives with the SHPO and AGRC and involved counties for identification of roads and trails. Existing and new partnerships and cooperative agreements, as appropriate, will be extensively used to assist in the development of the planning database and to also ensure the data is developed to existing corporate data standards and available to the public and stakeholders as appropriate.

An important goal of this effort will be to integrate the data collected and developed for use in this RMP into the Utah BLM corporate geospatial database to ensure this data is accessible during RMP implementation and by other programs in conducting their day-to-day business. This task will be one of the most intensive during the first and second years of this planning effort. The Utah BLM database will continue to be developed in a coordinated manner to accommodate future planning. The scope of work for this planning includes validating data converted from the Maps Overlay Statistical System (MOSS) Geographic Information System (GIS) to ARC/INFO format, horizontal and vertical data integration, and preparation of metadata documentation for the database. Portions of this work may be accomplished through partnerships between the BLM and the State of Utah, Division of Information Technology Services, Automated Geographic Reference Center (AGRC) and others. In addition to sharing data through BLM mechanisms, per a data sharing agreement with the State of Utah, much of the resulting data will be available to the public through the State Geographic Information Database (SGID).

Appendix E provides a matrix which identifies current GIS data layers, data layer condition and known data layer gaps. Availability of meta data is also specified. In many instances it has been found that existing data bases need to be updated (integrated with other data layers), compiled, and put into appropriate digital formats in order to provide a basis for impact analysis, and alternative formulation. These data layer “themes” are the building blocks necessary to quantify and portray resources, resource condition, and resource use areas and are used extensively throughout the planning process.

In many cases, existing resource information available in BLM offices or from other federal, state, or local agencies will be used during this planning effort in order to maximize planning efficiencies and reduce costs. It remains, however, that workloads associated with current GIS data will be high. If these needs cannot be met timely with contractor assistance, additional support from the State Office will be required, or an additional position for support of the GIS program will be sought for the Price Field Office.

The land use plan evaluations for the planning area included an intensive GIS evaluation which identified a significant amount of data and GIS needs that will be required to address issues, formulate alternatives and conduct impact analysis for this planning effort.

F. PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROCESS (Planning Team)

1. Utah Planning Management Team (PMT): This team consists of the State Director, Field Office Managers, State Office Resource Planning Specialist, and a Planning Coordinator. This team is responsible for regional coordination and oversight of issues, and controversies that surround this regional planning effort and may affect other ongoing planning efforts. This team will ensure appropriate logistical support and pursue opportunities for increasing planning efficiencies through coordination of contracting, hiring, travel, training etc. The PMT Coordinator will ensure smooth coordination of the many anticipated issues this team is likely to face.
2. Price Field Office Management Team (MT): This team consists of the Field Manager, Assistant Field Manager (AFM) for Renewable Resources, AFM for

Minerals Resources and ADM for Support Services, and Core Team Manager. The team ensures full compliance with the planning regulations and handbooks. It is responsible for ensuring that a collaborative process is used, wherever possible, and that a high degree of meaningful public involvement is achieved. This team is responsible for selecting the appropriate issues and concerns and opportunities that will be resolved in the planning effort and that a reasonable range of alternatives are developed. This team will also ensure that appropriate budgets are provided to complete the plan over the expected five year duration of this project.

3. **Core Team Manager (CTM):** The CTM is responsible for the day-to-day management and coordination of this planning effort and keeps the PMT and MT apprized of controversies and conflicts as they arise and recommends courses of actions to resolve problems. The CTM has primary responsibilities for contract oversight and directs staff involvement in contract execution and review. The CTM has overall responsibility to assure completion of the RMP, quality control, and collaborative interactions or partnershiping with interested publics. The CTM also has direct supervision of the Core Team (CT) and Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) and directs their involvement through out the planning process as required. The CTM is responsible for ensuring appropriate project management and records management techniques are followed.
4. **Core Team (CT):** This team consists of a natural resource specialist/writer editor, computer support specialist and documents administrator/receptionist in addition to the CTM. This team assists the CTM in the day-to-day management of the planning effort including but not limited to coordination with contractors and IDT staff, public outreach, management of documents and records.
5. **Interdisciplinary Team (IDT):** The team is represented by staff professionals across a wide variety of resource management fields including but not limited to: archeologist, geologist, fluid minerals specialist, wildlife biologists, soil and watershed specialist, vegetation/T&E plant specialist, wilderness specialist, range management specialist, recreation planner, wild horse specialist, fisheries biologist, and GIS. This team is directed by the CTM and has primary responsibilities in public outreach, oversight on contracts for the collection of data or directing inventory needs as well as working with both the secondary and primary contractors to ensure data accuracy and adequate impact analysis.
6. **Contractors:** Performance based contracts will be based on requests for proposal and statement of work to be developed by the Core Team, which specifies roles and responsibilities throughout the planning process, including but not limited to data collection, public outreach, and preparation of the EIS.
7. **Collaborators:** This will include both cooperating agencies and special interest groups that share responsibility for public scoping and the development of

alternatives that will be carried forward through analysis in the EIS.

7. FORMAT AND PROCESS FOR THE PLAN

1. Format

The format and outline for the plan will come from BLM, NEPA, wilderness planning and resource management guidance manuals. All legal and policy requirements will be met in the plan. This will include the process regarding public notices, required elements, distribution of the draft and final documents; the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Council on Environmental Quality guidelines (CEQ). The draft and final environmental impact statement (EIS) will be published with the draft and final versions of the plan.

2. Planning Process

This planning process will be guided by the planning regulations as set forth in 43 CFR 1600 and the H-1601-1 Land Use Planning Handbook. The regulations and manual provide the procedural guidance for implementing Sections 201 and 202 of the Federal Land Management and Policy Act.

The resource management plan, which is the primary outcome of this effort will: (a) establish the basic goals and objectives for resource management activities, (b) provide for desired future conditions, and (c) develop the measures needed to achieve these goals and objectives. Planning decisions are generally made on a broad scale and guide subsequent development of implementing activities (activity level plans).

In accordance with the directions set forth in FLPMA, this planning effort will:

- Use and observe the principles of multiple use and sustained yield;
- Use a systematic interdisciplinary approach to integrate, physical, biological, economic, and other sciences;
- Designate and protect Areas of Critical Environmental Concern;
- Rely, to the extent possible, on available data regarding natural resources;
- Consider present and potential uses of public lands;
- Consider the relative scarcity of values and availability of alternative means and sites for recognizing those values;
- Weigh long term benefits to the public against short term benefits;
- Provide for compliance with tribal, federal and state pollution laws, standards and implementation plans and
- Provide for consistency and coordination with other programs, plans and policies.

3. EIS Process

Completion of the EIS/RMP will follow basic process requirements specified by the Council on Environmental Quality for the preparation of environmental impact statements. Supplementary guidance provided by the B.M. 1790 Handbook will also be followed. Appendix F provides a basic outline illustrating the format and content expected in the EIS.

The CTM will be responsible for ensuring that the primary contractor responsible for preparation of the EISs does so in a manner consistent with B.M. and CEQ requirements. As data collection, compilation and analysis is completed by the contractors, the CTM will ensure that all written materials receive appropriate internal or external review and that corrections or additions to written materials made by IDT members receive appropriate consideration. All comments made by the IDT will be in standardized written format in order to facilitate contractor understanding of staff concerns and issues.

The CTM will coordinate appropriate state office reviews in a timely manner and ensure that applicable comments are coordinated with the contractor.

Four weeks will be permitted for the internal review of the draft and final plan EIS by the BLM and FS, including time required to transmit comments to the core team, SO, and WO. Forms will be supplied electronically to all reviewers to facilitate receipt of comments and to facilitate the analysis of the comments and needed corrections. For the BLM, review will take place at the BLM field office, state office, and Washington, D.C.

4. Format for Input from I.D. Team and Reviewers

BLM staff input may be made as either hard paper copies, or 3.5" floppy discs or CDs, in Corel WORDPERFECT software. Also input may be provided verbally, on flipcharts, via e-mail, or other medium during group and one-on-one meetings and other personal contacts. The submissions will be as complete as possible. The BLM state office will assist in obtaining timely input from reviewers.

5. Alternative Formulation

The MT will carefully consider public input when developing alternatives to ensure that a reasonable range of all alternatives is addressed, and that they are formulated in a manner which will resolve the planning issues, meet the purpose and need of the planning effort and can be realistically implemented. While it is too early in the process to identify specific alternatives, the following alternative concepts or themes are provided as food for thought, and to stimulate involvement

in the alternative development process.

- **The No Action Alternative** will be represented by the existing management decisions. This alternative is required by the CEQ.
- **Conservation and Restoration Theme:** At least one Alternative could be based on a Conservation and Restoration theme. This alternative would recognize community reliance on natural resource protection, and would focus on enhanced reclamation and or mitigation to lessen the effects of industrial development. Thresholds could be established. This concept could be applied in a single alternative or throughout a variety of alternatives. Restoration of at risk resources or habitats would be promoted intensively.
- **Resource Zone Concepts:** At least one alternative could carry forward the zoning themes concept into the planning effort. This alternative would establish specific zones based on priority management areas. These areas may include high priority areas for development and production of non-renewable resources (i.e. oil and gas, coal, gypsum). Each area would also contain specific management prescriptions based on the sensitivity of resources located in that area and land use allocations would be made accordingly.
- **Special Designation Concepts:** This concept could be applied in a single alternative or throughout a variety of alternatives. High values resources (such as cultural, paleontological, recreational, visual or biological) could be placed in a variety of special designations such as ACECs, HMAs, SRMAs etc. Other areas would be managed according to standardized best management practices. This alternative would result in extensive subsequent activity planning.
- **Rangeland Health Theme:** This concept could result in an alternative where projected standards and guidelines would be developed for specific categories or uses. Desired Future Conditions could be established for a variety of resources or uses.

H. PLAN PREPARATION SCHEDULE

Table 1 outlines a proposed plan preparation schedule for the planning process. The schedule gives estimated time frames for the completion of the required plan components including. All planning actions (43 CFR 1610.4) and support actions expected to be done either consecutively or concurrently, target:

- Initiation and completion dates for each action,
- Time periods needed for preparation and award of contracts, and preparation costs required for use in development of the AWP.

Table 1

Price Field Office Plan Preparation Schedule			
Planning Phase	Actions	Dates	Responsibility
Formally Initiate Planning Effort & Initiate Preliminary Scoping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hire Planning position - Begin contracting efforts (see additional items below) - Hire Core Management Team including NRS position - Initiate IPAs county, FWS, FS - Publish NOI in Federal Register - Update Field Office Mailing Lists - Provide Preliminary Planning Bulletin - Provide Planning Orientation Open House - Begin formal solicitation for issues and concerns - Formally address collaborative working groups - Pursue MOUs or cooperating agency status for entities with jurisdiction expertise. - Begin Issue Workgroup Meetings (This time frame includes significant feedback to involve public) - Finalize planning issues, concerns, and opportunities and inform the public of the final list. 	3/15/01 4/15/01 4/15/01- 9/15/01 6/1/01 - 11/15/01 7/1/01 8/1/01 9/1/01 9/15/01 10/1/01 10/1/01 10/1/01 10/15/01-5/15/02 05/15/02	CTM FM CTM FM/CTM FO FO/SO/CTM/PA CTM/PA FO/PA FO FO (ALL) FM/CTM FM/CTM/IDT FM/CTM/IDT
Inventory and Data Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIS database <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update themes Metadata Determine data gaps - Initiate Comprehensive Plan Contract and prepare RFP and SOW.* - Individual contracts for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Riparian studies Soil inventories Emery county (NRCS) - Data Collection - Collaborative data evaluation - Pursue Air Quality baseline and analysis - Initiate 3060 Mineral Technical Reports - Compile all new data as addendum to MSA <p>*A contractor representative will be involved with all significant aspects of data collection and issue identification.</p>	5/15/01- 11/1/02 4/15/01- 8/15/01 4/15/01 - 12/15/01 4/15/02 - 4/01/03 6/01/01 - 12/01/02 6/01/01 - 4/01/03 9/01/01 - 12/01/02 9/01/01- 12/01/02 6/01/02	IDT/Contractor CTM/ CT and IDT CTM/IDT CTM/IDT FM/CTM/SO IDT/CTM IDT/CTM SO/FO IDT/CTM

Table 1 (cont.)

Planning Phase	Actions	Dates	Responsibility
Initiate Consultation on T&E, Cultural	- Initiate federal and state consultation and coordination procedures.	4/01/01 - 4/01/03	SO/CTM
Formulate Alternatives	- Formulate management alternatives focused on issue resolution with the contractor. Continue public involvement through the alternative development stage. - Initiate Chapters 1-3 as information becomes available.	7/01/02 - 4/15/03 7/01/02 - Ongoing	FM/CTM/IDT/Contractor
Write and Publish Draft EIS	- Write PDEIS - Review by Collaborates - Revise draft EIS - Allow for comprehensive distribution based on up-to-date public involvement and allow minimum 90 day review.	4/15/03 - 9/15/03	Contractor/FO
Analyze Public Comment and Prepare and Distribute Final EIS	- Work continuously with contractor on this phase to ensure relevant comments are addressed and incorporated into FEIS	12/15/03 - 3/15/04	Contractor/FM/CTM/IDT
Initiate Protest Period and Governor's Consistency Review		3/15/04 - 5/15/04	SO
Prepare and Finalize RMP/ROD		5/15/04 - 8/15/04	Contractor /FO
Prepare Implementation Plan		8/15/04 - 9/30/05	CTM

I. BUDGET

**APPENDIX A
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE**

PLANNING PHASE	PURPOSE	METHOD/ACTIVITY	DATES	RESPONSIBILITY
ISSUE, PLANNING CRITERIA IDENTIFICATION	Announce upcoming scoping meetings.	Notice of Intent in <u>Federal Register</u> .		Core Team
	Request written comments on issues/scope of plan.	30 Day Comment Period.		
	Develop mailing list.	Newsletter to names on Plan mailing list.		Team Leader, FO Admin. Assistant
		Press release to media		Public Affairs
	Explain planning process to public. Solicit issues and concern. Identify scope of plan.	Public Meetings in Price, Moab, SLC		Core Team, FO Manager
		Meet with interested groups and organizations.		Core Team, FO Manager
	Explain planning process and consistency requirements to local and state government officials. Identify agency issues and concerns.	Meet with local governments and other agencies.		Core Team, FO Manager
	Review input from groups showing interest in plan.	Public comment period.		Core Team & ID Team FO Manager
ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION	Respond back to the public on issues to be addressed initially. Collect additional data where needed.	News article.		Core & ID Team, FO Manager, Public Affairs
	Describe alternatives that have been developed. Make sure issues are addressed. Assure focus of plan.	Newsletter to public, Plan mailing list.		Core & ID Team, Public Affairs
	Request comments on alternatives.	30 day comment period.		

Obtain comments on content.

Written, verbal responses comment period.

PLANNING PHASE	PURPOSE	METHOD/ACTIVITY	DATE	RESPONSIBILITY
Draft Plan/EIS	Request comment on draft Plan/EIS. Announce upcoming public meetings.	Draft Plan/EIS mailed. 90 Day comment period.		Core Team, Printer
		Press release to local and Denver media.		Team Leader
		Notice of Availability in <u>Federal Register</u> .		Team Leader
	Describe componets of the Draft Plan/EIS and solicit comments on it.	Public hearings - Price, Moab, SLC		Core & ID Teams, FO Manager
	Inform key individuals, agencies, government.	Meetings with groups, key people, government.		Core & ID Teams, FO Manager
	Obtain comments on Draft Plan/EIS.	Written and verbal responses. 90 day comment period.		Publics
PROPOSED PLAN/FINAL EIS	Give publics opportunity to review proposed decisions and protest decisions if adversely affected.	Publish Proposed Plan/FEIS to publics & mail list.		Core Team, FO Manager
		Begin 60 day Governor Consistency Review. Include notice explaining protest period (30 days).		
	Opportunity to comment on any significant changes made as result of a protest.	Federal Register Notice requesting comments.		Core Team
		News release		Team Leader, Public Affairs
APPROVED	Notify publics of	News Article,		Team Leader, Public

PLAN/ROD	final decisions.	Newsletter, transmittal letters,	Affairs
	Distribute plan.	Mail approved plan to NCA Plan mailing list.	Team Leader, FO Administrative Staff Assistant
IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE	Document and Prioritize Plan Implementation, Modification, and Monitoring	Prepare Office Document	Team Leader, FO Manager and ID Team

APPENDIX B
CONTACT/COMMENT DOCUMENTATION

1. NAME OF COMMENTER(S):
2. LOCATION OF CONTACT:
3. PERSON DOCUMENTING CONTACT: _____ 4. DATE:
5. WHAT PART OF THE PLANNING PROCESS DOES THIS CONTACT DEAL WITH?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Mailing List | <input type="checkbox"/> B. Response to News Article/Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C. Response to Fed Reg Notice | <input type="checkbox"/> D. Schedule |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E. Preplan Analysis | <input type="checkbox"/> F. Maps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> G. Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> H. Management Objectives & Goals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I. Management Actions | <input type="checkbox"/> J. Management Concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> K. Draft Plan: Which Chapter | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> L. Alternative(s): Which Ones | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> M. Final Plan: Which Chapter | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> N. Record of Decision: Which Section? | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> O. Other: | |

6. SUMMARY OF CONTACT AND INPUT (Use reverse side if necessary.):

APPENDIX C

GEOSPATIAL DATA DEVELOPMENT

Geospatial Database Development Assumptions:

The development of the geospatial database for this planning effort will be accomplished within the context of existing bureau data management strategies currently under development. Database development will incorporate goals, objectives, mandatory policies, and procedures identified in national Federal governmental guidance and instructions regarding the use, development and sharing of geospatial data and its management including the following:

- Executive Order 12906 of 1994 - Coordinating Geographic Data Acquisition and Access: The National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI)
- OMB Circular A-16 & the expected revision
- OMB Information Initiative of 2000 - "Collecting Information in the Information Age"

Database development will incorporate goals, objectives, mandatory policies, and procedures identified in national BLM guidance and instructions regarding the use, development and sharing of geospatial data and its management which include the following:

- Incorporate goals, objectives, mandatory policies, and procedures identified in Washington Office BLM planning guidance and other instructions regarding data management
- BLM H-1601-1 Land Use Planning Handbook
- BLM IM No. 2001-038 (11/30/2000) - Development/Approval of Preparation Plans for New Planning Starts and IM No. 2001-038, Change 1 (2/7/01)
- BLM IM No. 2001-029 (11/13/2000) -Interim Data Management Interim Guidance

Database development will incorporate goals, objectives, mandatory policies, and procedures identified in Utah BLM planning guidance, cooperative agreements, MOUs, and other instructions regarding data management which include the following:

- Utah BLM IM No. UT 2001-021(12/12/2000) - Utah BLM GIS Implementation Plan
- "A Workforce Strategy for Meeting Utah BLM's Land Use Planning Challenge" – Final Recommendations to the Utah Leadership Team of 11/23/2000
- Utah Implementation Team (I-Team) Plan - "Utah Framework Implementation Plan"
- Use lessons learned and the GIS data development model for Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument RMP

GIS hardware/software resources assembled to support these planning efforts will be integrated and coordinated with:

- Bureau Architecture Design and Implementation, a national BLM initiative to define Information Technology processes, hardware, and software and implement the results as an enterprise system.
- BLM GIS Transition Strategy, a national BLM initiative understand the existing situation and identify a strategy to transition the bureau to the enterprise GIS.

The Utah BLM is currently implementing its “GIS Implementation Plan” which documents GIS hardware/software installations, geospatial data management processes and policies for Utah BLM. This plan serves as the guiding document to manage and maintain an interim corporate GIS for Utah BLM. The document may be downloaded at:

http://www.utso.ut.blm.gov/GeoSciences/utah_blm_gis.htm

This plan identifies a GIS hardware/software implementation strategy, outlines corporate data management processes, and calls out GIS Specialist/Dealmaker roles and responsibilities, including performance standards. ***A standard directory structure and naming conventions for the data layers have been identified and implemented, preliminary geospatial datasets have been documented with FGDC compliant metadata, loaded on the master GIS server in the USO and are currently being replicated to the field offices.*** The next phases of this implementation effort will be the finalization and implementation of the GIS data standards/data stewardship process, the development of interim data standards, the integration of the multiple field office datasets into seamless statewide corporate data layers and serving the resultant data to the field. The implementation of this plan sets the stage for a future transition to the bureau enterprise GIS that is being defined by the Bureau Architecture project. It is within this context that data for the Price Field Office RMP will be developed.

Geospatial Database Development Guidelines:

The following guidelines will be adhered to as data is developed for this planning effort:

1. Existing data will be used where possible and new data will be collected only where absolutely necessary. All new data will be collected to established data standards. Existing data will be converted to accepted and established data standards.
2. The development of redundant data will be avoided by extensive coordination with our data partners. Data from existing sources will be used when possible.
3. Data for this planning effort will be integrated into seamless corporate datasets.
4. The data standards strategy used will be the following:
 2. Established national data standards will be used when available.
 1. Data standards from other agencies will be adopted when appropriate.
 - c. Data standards will be jointly developed and documented with our statewide data partners as appropriate. Data category standards teams, which include state data stewards, resource specialists, and GIS specialists from BLM and other agencies, will be used as necessary. The national

BLM data stewards will be included in the review process as appropriate.

5. ***All geospatial data used in this planning effort will be documented with Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) compliant metadata.***
6. Data sharing with the public will be accomplished through the use of BLM GIS data servers and interactive GIS Map Servers connected through the Internet. The national BLM website design guidelines and deployment strategy will be followed.

Data will also be available to the public through links to the Utah State Geographic Information Database (SGID) as appropriate and as existing laws and regulations allow.
7. Existing GIS-related agreements/partnerships will be used to supplement BLM resources for the data development and data integration efforts. Partners that are familiar with these datasets and that have a proven track record will be used.
8. Existing Utah BLM GIS Implementation Plan process/procedures will be followed to achieve a consistent corporate geospatial database in Utah BLM.

GIS Data Management Tasks

A brief overview of the specific data management tasks and processes is presented below.

1. Internal Coordination
A Utah BLM GIS Data Development coordination team will be formed to coordinate the development of a GIS database to support the planning efforts. This team will be composed of GIS Specialists/Dealmakers from the USO, from each FO with a planning start, and the GIS Specialist from the respective support center and will communicate on a weekly basis via conference call. This task will be coordinated and led by the USO.
2. External Coordination
USO GIS/Geospatial Data personnel will continue to coordinate with our data partners through participation in Utah GISAC meetings and activities and coordinate with Utah BLM. Coordination with other entities will continue to be accomplished as required. This task will be coordinated and led by the USO.
3. Data Inventory
This task includes cataloging available datasets, producing maps and screen

displays of data for evaluation by the resource specialists. A preliminary information needs assessment has been conducted to identify data requirements for this planning effort. See the Data Matrix in Appendix E for more information. This will be coordinated by the USO and conducted by the Price Field Office.

4. Data Acquisition

This task includes contacting data providers to request data and metadata. This data will then be added to the BLM corporate GIS database. Metadata will be prepared or modified as necessary. This task will be led and coordinated by the USO. The field office staff will assist as necessary.

4. Data Development Process

Core Data Standards Development

Utah BLM Data Stewards/Program Leads

Data Category Standards Teams

Data Integration

Includes data editing/updating

Horizontal Data Integration

USO GIS staff

Use of partnerships/contracts

Contract Management (USO GIS staff/FO GIS staff)

Vertical Data Integration

USO GIS staff

Use of partnerships/contracts

Contract Management (USO GIS staff/FO GIS staff)

Attribute Integration/Updates

USO GIS staff

Use of partnerships/contracts

Contract Management (USO GIS staff/FO GIS staff)

Data Validation/Verification

Includes verification map production and staff review of datasets.

Spatial Data

FO GIS staff

FO Resource Specialists

USO GIS staff

Attribute Data

- FO GIS staff
- FO Resource Specialists
- USO GIS staff
- Metadata Documentation
 - FO GIS staff
 - FO Resource Specialists
 - USO GIS staff
- Combine Planning Data Into Utah BLM Corporate GIS Database
 - Arc/Info Librarian
 - Data Maintenance/Update Process
 - USO GIS staff
- SDE/Informix Transition
 - Pilot Project beginning FY2001
 - USO GIS staff
 - USO IRM staff
 - Data Maintenance/Update Process
 - USO GIS staff

APPENDIX D

Pre-Plan Data Status								
1 Planning Questions	2 Needed Data Set (s)	3 Is Needed Data Set Available? <i>Yes/No/Partially</i>	4 Work Needed to Obtain New Data or Prepare Existing Data?	5 Est. Cost \$\$	6 *Are FGDC Metadata Avaialable? <i>Yes/No</i>	7 Name/Source of Data Standard?	8 Does Available Data Meet a National or Regional Standard?	9 Name/Source of Potential National or Regional Data Standard?

* Executive Order #12906 requires FGDC-compliant metadata for geospatial data used by Federal agencies.

Notes

1. PLANNING QUESTION - The question, or issue with a data requirement. (Pre-Plan Question/Issue from I.M. 2001-038)

2. NEEDED DATA SETS - The specific data needed to address the PLANNING QUESTION.

3. AVAILABILITY OF DATA SETS - Is there existing data or new data yet to be collected or acquired?

4. WORK TO OBTAIN/PREPARE DATA - If new data, describe how the data will be obtained. If existing data will be converted to GIS or some other format, describe processing.

5. ESTIMATED COSTS - Summary of costs associated with collecting or converting required data.

6. AVAILABILITY OF FGDC METADATA - Does metadata exist that is in compliance with the FGDC Geo-Spatial Metadata Content Standard?

7. NAME/SOURCE OF DATA STANDARD - What is or will be the name/source of the data standard? What kind of data is it: has it been designated by BLM at the National, State, Regional, Local level? If the data does not meet a national standard, be sure to document the standard being used. If the data does not meet that standard, indicate that.

8. DATA MEETS NATIONAL OR REGIONAL STANDARD - If there is a national or regional standard, does/will the data meet that standard? (*Verify with Data Steward*)

9. NAME/SOURCES OF POTENTIAL DATA NATIONAL OR REGIONAL STANDARD - If there is a national or regional data standard in general use, but is not being used in your plan, and you believe it would be an appropriate standard to work toward, list it.

Entries for data sets that apply to more than one question should be cut and pasted to complete the entry for each line so that each action type/question is self-contained. This will enable us to more readily transfer information to a database.

APPENDIX E
GIS THEME LIST FOR THE PRICE FIELD OFFICE

Plan_Use /Dect	Data_Cat	Theme	Price_River _PU	San_Rafael _PU	Data_Action	Data_Sour	Organ_Sour	Comments-p
	Aviation							
	Constructed_Features							
	Demographic							
	Hazards							
	Images							
	Lands	RS2477 Assertions	digitize	update				
	Law_Enforcement							
	Minerals	SITLA Leases						
	Reference_System	GCDB						
	Utilities							
admin_designation	Admin/Ownership	ACECs	update	update				
admin_designation	Admin/Ownership	ACECs-Colorado						
admin_designation	Admin/Ownership	Outstanding Natural Areas (acec)						
admin_designation	Admin/Ownership	Research Natural Areas (acec)						
admin_designation	Recreation	Back Country Byways						
admin_designation	Wildlife	Watchable Wildlife Viewing Sites						
air_quality	Air/Climate	Precipitation	digitize	digitize				
base_map	Admin/Ownership	County Boundaries-CO						
base_map	Admin/Ownership	County Boundaries-UT						
base_map	Admin/Ownership	Field Office Boundaries-CO						
base_map	Admin/Ownership	Field Office Boundaries-UT						
base_map	Admin/Ownership	Indian res bdy						
base_map	Admin/Ownership	Indian res bdy-10 circuit court						
base_map	Admin/Ownership	Indian res bdy-Hill Creek Extension						
base_map	Admin/Ownership	Land Status-subsurface	update	update				
base_map	Admin/Ownership	Land Status-surface	update	update				

base_map	Admin/Ownership	Municipal Boundaries						
base_map	Admin/Ownership	Ouray Wildlife Refuge						

Plan_Use /Dect	Data_Cat	Theme	Price_River _PU	San_Rafael _PU	Data_Action	Data_Sour	Organ_Sour	Comments-p
base_map	Admin/Ownership	Resource Areas						
base_map	Admin/Ownership	Town Locations						
base_map	Admin/Ownership	USFS boundaries						
base_map	Admin/Ownership	Utah state boundary						
base_map	Admin/Ownership	VFO boundary						
base_map	Geographic_Features	National Landmarks-Place Names	digitize	digitize				
base_map	Geographic_Features	Place Names						
base_map	Reference_System	PLSS						
base_map	Reference_System	PLSS						
base_map	Reference_System	Quads-regions 7.5'						
base_map	Reference_System	Quads-regions 7.5'/100k/250k						
base_map	Reference_System	Tics - 7.5 min						
base_map	Transportation	Railroads						
base_map	Transportation	Roads	update	update				
coal	Minerals	Coal Leases	digitize					
coal	Minerals	Coal occurence potential						
congress_designation	Recreation	National Conservation Areas						
congress_designation	Recreation	National Historic/Scenic Trails						
congress_designation	Recreation	National Recreation Areas						
congress_designation	Recreation	Potential Wild and Scenic Rivers	digitize					
congress_designation	Wilderness	Wilderness Inventory Data						
congress_designation	Wilderness	WSA Boundaries	update	update				
cultural	Cultural	Archaeology sensitivity						
cultural	Cultural	Cultural Sites and Surveys	digitize					
fire_management	Fire	Fire Management Zones						
fire_management	Fire	Fire Suppression Areas	digitize					

fire_management	Fire	Prescribed fires for 1998						
fire_management	Fire	Prescribed fires for 1989						
fire_management	Fire	Wildfires						
fire_management	Fire	Wildfires for 1998						
fire_management	Fire	Wildfires for 1999						

Plan_Use /Dect	Data_Cat	Theme	Price_River _PU	San_Rafael _PU	Data_Action	Data_Sour	Organ_Sour	Comments-p
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Antelope Habitat	update	update				
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Antelope Herd Units						
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Blue Grouse Habitat						
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Buffalo Habitat						
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Chukar Habitat						
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Deer Herd Units						
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Desert Bighorn Sheep Habitat	update	update				
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Elk Habitat	update	update				
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Elk Herd Units						
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Fish Habitat	digitize	digitize				
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Mnt. Bighorn Sheep Yr-long Habitat						
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Moose Habitat	update	update				
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Mule Deer Habitat	update	update				
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Plover Sightings						
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Raptor Nests	digitize	update				
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Sage Grouse Habitat	update	update				
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Sage Grouse Lek						
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Turkey Habitat	digitize	digitize				
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	UDWR Management Units						
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Upland Game Birds	digitize	digitize				
fish/wildlife	Wildlife	Wildlife Habitat Management Plans	digitize	update				
fluid_minerals	Management_Plan	EA bdy - major field development						

fluid_minerals	Minerals	Communitization Agreements						
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Fields - oil & gas						
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Leases - oil & gas						
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Naval Oil Shale Reserver Bdy						
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Oil and Gas Categories	digitize	update				
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Oil and Gas Potential	digitize	update				
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Oil Shale Potential	digitize					

Plan_Use /Dect	Data_Cat	Theme	Price_River _PU	San_Rafael _PU	Data_Action	Data_Sour	Organ_Sour	Comments-p
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Participating areas - oil & gas						
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Pipeline - Questar						
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Pipelines						
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Plays -oil & gas						
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Special tar sand areas						
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Stipulations - Book Cliffs						
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Tar sand categories						
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Unit agreements - oil & gas						
fluid_minerals	Minerals	Wells - oil & gas						
forestry	Forestry	Wood Collection Areas	digitize					
lands/realty	Lands	Easements						
lands/realty	Lands	Land Leases	digitize					
lands/realty	Lands	Lands Proposed for Disposal	digitize					
lands/realty	Lands	Public Water Reserves						
lands/realty	Lands	Rights-of-way - lines	digitize	digitize				
lands/realty	Lands	Rights-of-way - lines						
lands/realty	Lands	Rights-of-way - points						
lands/realty	Lands	Rights-of-way Utility Corridors	digitize					
lands/realty	Lands	Withdrawals	digitize	digitize				
livestock_grazing	Range	Grazing Allotments	update	update				
livestock_grazing	Range	Range Improvements-lines	update	update				
livestock_grazing	Range	Range Improvements-points	update	update				
livestock_grazing	Range	Range Improvements-polygons	update	update				
livestock_grazing	Range	Range Improvements-polygons						
locateable	Minerals	Crib Data						
locateable	Minerals	Crib Data						
locateable	Minerals	Gilsonite authorized leases-permits						
locateable	Minerals	Gilsonite occurence potential						
locateable	Minerals	Gypsum Potential	digitize					

Plan_Use /Dect	Data_Cat	Theme	Price_River _PU	San_Rafael _PU	Data_Action	Data_Sour	Organ_Sour	Comments-p
locateable	Minerals	Known phosphate lease areas						
locateable	Minerals	Locatable mineral occurrence pot						
locateable	Minerals	Mahogany isopach lines						
locateable	Minerals	Mahogany isopach points						
locateable	Minerals	MILS Data						
locateable	Minerals	Mining claim density - 160 ac.						
locateable	Minerals	Oil shale occurrence potential						
locateable	Minerals	Phosphate authorized leases-permits						
locateable	Minerals	Uranium Potential	digitize					
nat_history_res	Cultural	Natural History Resources						
non-energy_lease	Minerals		digitize	update				
paleontology	Cultural	Paleontology Potential						
paleontology	Cultural	Paleontology Sites						
recreation	Recreation	Developed Recreation Sites	digitize	update				
recreation	Recreation	ORV Designations						
recreation	Recreation	Recreation Trails						
recreation	Recreation	ROS Classes		update				
recreation	Recreation	SRMA/ERMA	digitize	update				
saleable_mat	Minerals	Community Pits	digitize	update				
saleable_mat	Minerals	Free Use Permits	digitize	update				
saleable_mat	Minerals	Mineral material admin areas						
saleable_mat	Minerals	Mineral material occurrence						
saleable mat	Minerals	Major Lithology - Surface						
soil/water	Hydrography	Dams - Major						
soil/water	Hydrography	Drinking Water Sources						
soil/water	Hydrography	Floodplains 100yr						
soil/water	Hydrography	Ground Water Aquifers						

soil/water	Hydrography	Municipal Watersheds	digitize					
soil/water	Hydrography	Points of diversion						
soil/water	Hydrography	Springs						
soil/water	Hydrography	Streams						
soil/water	Hydrography	Water Bodies						

Plan_Use /Dect	Data_Cat	Theme	Price_River _PU	San_Rafael _PU	Data_Action	Data_Sour	Organ_Sour	Comments-p
soil/water	Hydrography	Water Quality Data						
soil/water	Hydrography	Watersheds-Level 6 HUC						
soil/water	Physiog/Soils	Critical Soils	digitize	update				
soil/water	Physiog/Soils	Geology-Utah						
soil/water	Physiog/Soils	Soils	update	update				
soil/water	Physiog/Soils	Steep Slopes	digitize	digitize				
soil/water	Vegetation	Riparian Areas	update	update				
special_status_spp	Vegetation	T&E Habitat	digitize	update				
special_status_spp	Vegetation	T&E Habitat-scgl						
special_status_spp	Vegetation	T&E Recovery Plan	digitize	update				
special_status_spp	Wildlife	Black-footed Ferret Habitat						
special_status_spp	Wildlife	Black-footed Ferret Primary Mgt.Zones						
special_status_spp	Wildlife	Prairie Dog Habitat						
special_status_spp	Wildlife	State Sensitive Wildlife Species						
special_status_spp	Wildlife	T&E Birds Habitat						
special_status_spp	Wildlife	T&E Fish Habitat						
special_status_spp	Wildlife	T&E Habitat	digitize	update				
special_status_spp	Wildlife	T&E Recovery Plan	digitize	update				
sup-dec_cadastral	Reference_System							
sup-dec_facilities	Constructed_Features							
sup-dec_transporatio	Transportation	Transportation Plan						

n								
vegetation	Vegetation	Exotics/Invasive Plants	ok	ok				
vegetation	Vegetation	Relic Plant Communities						
vegetation	Vegetation	Vegetation	digitize	update				
vegetation	Vegetation	Vegetation-dmra						
vegetation	Vegetation	Vegetation-Utah						

Plan_Use /Dect	Data_Cat	Theme	Price_River _PU	San_Rafael _PU	Data_Action	Data_Sour	Organ_Sour	Comments-p
visual	Management_Plan	Visual Resource Management Classes						
visual	Visual_Resources	VRM Inventory Classes	digitize	update				
wild_horse_burro	Wild_Horse/Burros	Wild Horse-Burro Habitat		update				
wild_horse_burro	Wild_Horse/Burros	Wild Horse-Burro Herd Areas						
wild_horse_burro	Wild_Horse/Burros	Wild Horse-Burro Herd Mgt. Areas	digitize					

Note: A preliminary assessment was made to determine those themes needed (at a minimum) to initiate the project. These are highlighted and represent priority needs relative to aquisition and digitizing needs. It is recognized that this assessment will most likely change as the project moves forward.

Values for each Field

Plan_Use/Dec - Types of BLM RMP Planning/Decisions for which data will be used: e.g. “sup-dec_facilities = support decision/facilities” see the planning handbood for all categories.

Price_River_PU - update, digitize, na, ok, reveiw

San Rafael_PU - update, digitize, na, ok, reveiw

Data Action - keep, replace, acquire, abandon

Data_Sour(ce) - dlg, drg, or other data layerss if vertically integrated when data is developed

Organ_Sour - Agency or organization from whom data will be acquired

APPENDIX F

PRELIMINARY DEIS FORMAT AND CONTENT OUTLINE

Cover Sheet: Title, Type, Lead Agencies and Cooperators, Project Lead/Public Contact Person for Comments, Abstract, EIS Review and Consultation Requirements, Date of Issuance, Date Comments Due, Name, Title of Responsible Official

Dear Reader Letter

Executive Summary

Table of Contents

Chapter I: Introduction
Historical Background
Purpose and Need
Public Scoping/Planning Issue Identification
Issues and Alternatives Considered for Detailed Analysis
Issues and Alternatives Rejected for Detailed Analysis
Planning Criteria
Conformance with Land Use Plans
Relationship to Ongoing Programs, Plans and Policies

Chapter II: Alternatives Considered for Detailed Analysis
Management Common to the Action Alternatives
No Action Alternative-1
Alternative - 2
Alternative - 3
Alternative - 4

Chapter III: Affected Environment

(This section will show baseline, condition or trends that may be affected by the various alternatives, relative importance of the affected resources and relationships to the region, highlight those values that do not fit traditional resources categories, and incorporate by reference suitable affected environment material from the existing land use planning base.)

Chapter IV: Environmental Consequences
Analysis Assumptions

Reasonable Foreseeable Development Scenarios

Impact Analysis by Alternatives

Summary Table of Impacts

Chapter V:

Coordination and Consultation

Describe Scoping Process and Efforts

Summarize Comments Received

Identify Agencies, Organizations Participating in Process

List of Preparers

Glossary

Index

Appendices